



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers®**  
Nashville District

## J. Percy Priest Lake

# Lake Casts



**Spring 2004**

### **J. PERCY PRIEST LAKESHORE CLEANUP AND OPEN HOUSE**

Looking for an interesting way to spend a day at J. Percy Priest Lake? Come to our annual J. Percy Priest Spring Lakeshore Cleanup on April 3rd, 2004. Volunteers will gather at either the J. Percy Priest Visitor Center parking lot or Long Hunter State Park Visitor Center for cleanup activities from 9 a.m.- 12 noon. Lakeshore cleanup efforts will concentrate on established bank fishing areas, islands, and other areas where there is no regular litter pickup. Participants will be provided trash bags and gloves. Refreshments will follow.

The J. Percy Priest Visitor Center will have an Open House from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. The resource manager and park rangers will be on hand to field questions and comments on a number of topics relating to J. Percy Priest Lake and will provide information regarding the upcoming recreation season. Visitors traveling to the Lakeshore Cleanup or Open House should take I-40 East, Exit 219 Stewarts Ferry Pike, turn right to first light, turn left on Bell Road, travel approximately 1/8 mile to the J. Percy Priest Visitor Center. Contact Park Ranger John Baird at (615) 889-1975 for advanced sign-up for lakeshore cleanup activities.



### **REAL PROGRAM AFFECTS AREAS AT J. PERCY PRIEST LAKE**

The Recreation Excellence at Army Lakes (REAL) Program will afford the opportunity for the Nashville District Corps of Engineers to improve the quality and level of services at area lakes. The plan involves redirecting project resources from lesser used recreation areas and involves closures, partial closures, or changes in management of some recreation areas at J. Percy Priest Lake. The REAL Program provides an excellent opportunity to improve our service levels in our more heavily used recreation areas” says Resource Manager Todd Yann. The areas affected at J. Percy Priest Lake include:

Seven Points Day Use—close swim beach only  
Cook Campground—close entire campground—57 sites  
Four Corners Day Use—close picnic area—34 sites  
Fate Sanders Day Use—close 15 of picnic sites  
Gregory Mill Recreation Area—lease to Town of Smyrna  
Elm Hill Day Use Area—lease to Elm Hill Marina

In every instance, nearby facilities are available for the visiting public to camp and access and enjoy the lake.

### **J. PERCY PRIEST LAKE WEBSITE AND THE CORPS GATEWAY**

Have a question about J. Percy Priest Lake? Find a wide variety of topics relating to the lake at <http://www.lrn.usace.army.mil/op/JPP/rec/>.

Boating, fishing, swimming, camping, and trails information is offered, and access to reservations through the National Recreation Reservation Service for project campsites and picnic shelters is available. Another location for a variety of topics relating to the Corps of Engineers can be accessed on the web at <http://corpslakes.usace.army.mil>.



This also provides links to other Corps of Engineers projects in the Nashville District, as well as projects throughout the country. Take a look for yourself; they'll become favorites!

### **PLANNING A SPECIAL EVENT AT J. PERCY PRIEST LAKE ?**

If you are planning a special event, it may require a permit. Activities that affect the full and free use of public lands or waters or requires the exclusive use of any portion of a specific area, may require a special event permit. The minimum fee for a special event permit is \$50. This permit is necessary to assist the Resource Manager in better managing the events in terms of the participants and public's safety and security, and the protection of the public land and water resources of the project. For more information contact Park Ranger John Baird at the Resource Manager's Office at (615) 889-1975.

### **TAKE A HIKE!**

With more emphasis put on physical fitness and health, trails have become an important source for visitors to improve their health and enjoy the out-of-doors. J. Percy Priest offers a number of trails for a wide variety of uses. Hikers can



enjoy natural scenery on Three Hickories Nature Trail, or get in a good jog along the lake at Anderson Road Fitness Trail. Horseback riders can enjoy more than 19 miles of trail riding on the Twin Forks Horse Trail. Other trails on the lake maintained by other agencies include a variety of trails at Long Hunter State Park and a mountain bike trail at Hamilton Creek Metro Park. Archery enthusiasts can practice their skills on the Poole Knobs Archery Trail maintained by the Necedah Bowhunters Archery Club. Soon to come will be a trailhead access to the Stones River Greenway that is under construction along the Tailwater Left Bank. For more



information about J. Percy Priest trails, visit our website or contact Park Ranger Justin Reed at (615) 889-1975.

### **CAMPING ADVENTURES**

Looking for a great adventure in the great out-of-doors? Camping has always been one of the favorite pastimes of visitors to J. Percy Priest, and there are three developed campgrounds to suit your needs.

**Seven Points Campground** offers 60 campsites with water and electrical hookups, washhouse and comfort station, washer and dryer, sanitary dump station, and launch ramp. In addition, there is a developed swim beach located in the campground. Seven Points Campground is a favorite among campers wishing to take in the sites and sounds Nashville has to offer, and is conveniently located off Interstate 40 in Hermitage.

**Poole Knobs Campground** maintains 88 campsites with such amenities as water and electrical hookups, washhouse and comfort stations, washer and dryer, sanitary dump station, and launch ramp. Poole Knobs Campground also offers a group campsite and shelter facility for larger camping groups, and is conveniently located to the Smyrna-Laverne communities. Especially popular are the

The four major causes of drownings are:

- ✓ Not wearing a life jacket;
- ✓ Abuse of alcohol;
- ✓ Lack of sufficient swimming skills;
- ✓ Hypothermia

***Wear your  
life jacket!***



waterfront campsites providing outstanding views of J. Percy Priest Lake.

**Anderson Road Campground** has 37 campsites, washhouse and comfort station, washer and dryer, sanitary dump station, and launch ramp. Anderson Road Campground offers a number of waterfront campsites for campers who bring their boats, and is an easy drive to nearby



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**Volunteer Clearinghouse  
1-800-865-8337  
Give a Helping Hand  
[www.lrn.usace.army.mil/  
volunteer](http://www.lrn.usace.army.mil/volunteer)**

### **VOLUNTEERS**

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the many volunteers that have contributed their time and efforts to our lake this past year. Volunteers do make a difference!! There are many more opportunities during the upcoming season. Examples include: lake-shore cleanup, Park Host, Visitor Center, primitive camping work, trails, fisheries management and maintenance to

name a few. Contact Park Ranger Robert Davis for more informa-



Anderson Road Day Use where a number of day use opportunities are provided. Many services such as restaurants, grocery stores, and other conveniences are located within an easy drive of the campground.

Campers wishing a more primitive camping experience should check out one of the established primitive island campsites located on the lake. Primitive campsites are designated by a white marker post with camping symbol, but keep in mind that security and law enforcement services are not provided. Persons camping outside of developed campgrounds do so at their own risk. For more information on camping at J. Percy Priest Lake, contact the Resource Manager's Office at (615) 889-1975.



## **STONES RIVER HUNTER EDUCATION CENTER**

The Stones River Hunter Education Center is now open for business! The TWRA managed facility is located along Hobson Pike on J. Percy Priest Lake, and provides hunters and gun enthusiasts an opportunity to safely practice their sport. Plans are also underway to construct a facility to perform hunter education classes for the public. For information check the web at <http://www.state.tn.us/twra/srhc.html>, or call the center at (615) 641-8896.

## **SHORT CASTS**

### **National Safe Boating Week**

National Safe Boating Week is May 22 – 28, 2004. Do something to improve your boating safety skills – take a boating course! Contact the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency at (615) 781-6682 for information.

### **Free Fishing Week**

The Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency offers Free Fishing Week June 7-13, 2004 for children ages 13-15. Free Fishing Day is on June 7, 2004 when everyone can fish for free and a license is not required.



### **Need Directions?**

Do you need directions to J. Percy Priest recreation areas? Check out the J. Percy Priest Lake website at <http://www.lrn.usace.army.mil/op/JPP/rec/> for directions to project areas. Directions can also be ob-

tained by contacting the Resource Manager's Office at (615) 889-1975.

## **J. PERCY PRIEST DAY USE AREAS**

The day use areas on J. Percy Priest will open on April 1<sup>st</sup> 2004. Use fees are charged at Anderson Road and Cook Day Use Areas only. Don't forget that pets are not allowed at the fee day use areas! For the coming season, a flat fee of \$ 4.00 will be charged per vehicle for boat launching, beach use or picnicking. People walking into the area will be charged \$ 1.00 per person. Children under 12 years old will not be charged. There is a 50% discount for holders of Golden Age or Golden Access Passports. Golden Eagle Passports do not apply at Corps of Engineers Recreation Areas. Fees will be charged from April 1<sup>st</sup> through September 13<sup>th</sup>, however all day use areas will stay open through October 29<sup>th</sup>. Active duty service members on military leave from duty in Iraq are also provided use of day-use facilities free of charge, excluding shelter reservations made over the web. Proof of leave must be provided upon request. For more information, contact the Resource Managers Office at (615) 889-1975.







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**Resource Managers Office  
J. Percy Priest Lake  
3737 Bell Road  
Nashville, Tennessee 37214-2660  
[www.lrn.usace.army.mil/op/JPP/rec/](http://www.lrn.usace.army.mil/op/JPP/rec/)**

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### **J. PERCY PRIEST RESOURCE MANAGEMENT STAFF**

The J. Percy Priest Resource Management staff welcomes questions and comments, so give them a call at (615) 889-1975.

Resource Manager – Todd Yann  
Conservation Biologist – Sherry Roberts  
Environmental Protection Specialist – Mark Vaughan  
Park Ranger Justin Reed – Dam LB to Hobson Pike  
Park Ranger John Baird – Hobson Pike to Nice Mill  
Park Ranger Robert Davis – Fate Sanders to JPP/R Dam  
Administrative Assistant – Zan Blackburn  
Student Aide – Michelle Mangrum  
Co-op Ranger – Steven Gregory  
Civil Engineering Tech/Facility Manager - Greg Thomas  
Civil Engineering Tech – Mike Hight  
Supply Technician – Harry Newkirk  
Construction Inspector – Jewel Spivey  
Park Contract Inspector – Janice Nelson  
Maintenance Mechanic - Joe Walker

### **J. PERCY PRIEST FISHING INFO**

J. Percy Priest offers anglers a multitude of fishing opportunities year-round. Call or stop by our office to obtain lake-specific fishing information about J. Percy Priest. The handout provides information regarding licensing requirements, lake creel and size limits, fish attractor permits, and fishing ethics. Daily fishing information, lake/tailwater elevations, and generation schedule can be obtained Monday – Friday from the J. Percy Priest



Fishing Information Line at (615) 883-2351, or at the J. Percy Priest website. Additional information concerning weekend water release schedules can be obtained by calling the TVA at 1-800-238-2264. The access code for J. Percy Priest is **48**.